



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**Forest
Service**

**Washington
Office**

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File Code: 6270-1

Date: January 15, 1999

Route To:

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Annual Report (October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998)

To: Carolyn Harris, FOIA/PA Officer
Office of Communications

Enclosed is the consolidated Forest Service Freedom of Information Act Annual
Report for the period of October 1, 1997 through September 30, 1998.

/s/ Naomi Y. Charboneau

NAOMI Y. CHARBONEAU
National FOIA/Privacy Act Officer

Enclosure



US Forest Service FY 1998 Annual FOIA Report

NUMBER OF INITIAL REQUESTS

1. Number of requests pending at end of FY 97 187
2. Number of requests received during FY 98 5319
3. Number of requests processed during FY 98 5019
4. Number of requests pending at end of FY 98 487

DISPOSITION OF REQUESTS

1. Number of total grants 3168
2. Number of partial grants 897
3. Number of denials 478

FOIA exemption used:

Exemption 1	0
Exemption 2	3
Exemption 3	28
Exemption 4	43
Exemption 5	119
Exemption 6	221
Exemption 7(A)	23
Exemption 7(B)	1
Exemption 7(C)	30
Exemption 7(D)	0
Exemption 7(E)	4
Exemption 7(F)	0

Exemption 8	0
Exemption 9	2
Other reasons for nondisclosure (total):	822
No records	352
Referred elsewhere	182
Request withdrawn	60
Fee-related reason	74
Records not reasonably described	69
Not a proper FOIA request for some reason	17
Not an agency record	16
Duplicate request	24
Other (specify)	28

NUMBER OF APPEALS (FS WO will provide)

1. Number of appeals received during FY 98	84
2. Number of appeals processed (completed) during FY 98	43

DISPOSITION OF APPEALS (FS WO will provide)

1. Number completely upheld	17
2. Number partially reversed	17
3. Number completely reversed	8

FOIA exemption used:

FOIA exemption used:

Exemption 1:	0
Exemption 2:	3

Exemption 3:	2
Exemption 4:	4
Exemption 5:	9
Exemption 6:	13
Exemption 7(A):	1
Exemption 7(B):	0
Exemption 7(C):	6
Exemption 7(D):	0
Exemption 7(E):	0
Exemption 7(F):	0
Exemption 8:	0
Exemption 9:	0
Other reasons for nondisclosure(total):	13
No records:	8
Referred elsewhere:	0
Request withdrawn:	2
Fee-related reason:	0
Records not reasonably described:	0
Not a proper FOIA request for some reason:	1
Not an agency record:	0
Duplicate request:	1
Other (specify):	1 (Glomar)

MEDIAN PROCESSING TIME FOR REQUESTS

1. Simple requests (if multiple tracks used) (Not applicable to FS)

Number of requests processed

Median number of days to process

2. Complex requests (specify for any and all tracks used)(FS input included here)

Number of requests processed 5019

Median number of days to process 25

3. Requests accorded expedited processing

Number of requests processed 9

Median number of days to process 7

STATUS OF PENDING REQUESTS (Agencies using multiple tracks may provide numbers for each track as well as totals).(FS does not have multiple tracks).

1. Number of requests pending at end of FY 98 487

2. Median number of days requests were pending at end of FY 98 35

DESCRIBE AGENCY EFFORTS TO (Optional): (FS has elected not to submit information for this section for FY 98.)

Improve timeliness

Reduce backlog

Provide training

Add new categories of records

TOTAL COSTS

1. FOIA processing \$2,946,031

2. Litigation-related activities (estimated) \$300,000

3. Total costs \$3,246,031

Statement of additional resources needed (optional) (FS elected not to submit information for this section for FY 98).

FEES

1. Total fees collected for search, review, duplication, other direct costs permitted by agency regulations \$22,880

2. Percentage of total costs .007%

URL FOR AGENCY FOIA REGULATIONS (including Fee Schedule)(This will be supplied by FS WO): <http://www.fs.fed.us/im/foia>

STAFFING LEVELS

1. Number of full-time FOIA personnel 14

2. Number of personnel with part-time or occasional FOIA duties (in work-years) 353 persons @ 5%

3. Total number of personnel (Work-years) 367

EXEMPTION 3 STATUTES

A. List of Exemption 3 statutes relied on by agency during current fiscal year.

Archaeological Resources Protections Act of 1976
National Historical Preservation Act of 1966
Public Law 104-201 Section 821

1. Brief description of type(s) of information withheld under each statute.

Archaeological Resources Protections Act of 1976 (Cultural Resource Sites)
National Historical Preservation Act of 1966 (Cultural Resources Sites)
Public Law 104-201 Section 82 (Contracting Information)

2. Statement of whether a court has upheld the use of each statute. If so, then cite example.

No related lawsuits